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## ACANTHACEÆ.

DIANTHERA, Gronov.—*D. Americana*, L.; Staten Island, *Le Roy*.

## VERBENACEÆ.

VERBENA, L.—*V. angustifolia*, Mehx.; Hoboken, *Torr. Cat.*; abundant at Passaic Falls, *Merriam*; Canarsie, rare on L. I., *Merriam*; Closter, common, *Austin*; Red Bank, N. J., *W. H. L.*; Long Branch, *Ruger*; N. Y., *State Flora*.—*V. hastata*, L.; common; N. Y.; Closter, scarce, *Austin*.—*V. urticifolia*, L.; common; N. Y.—*V. stricta*, Vent.; *Le Roy*; Central Park, *R. & P.*—*V. officinalis*, L.; "Borders of fields about Bergen, N. J.," *Torr. Cat.*; Barrens of N. J., and Suffolk Co., L. I., *W. H. L.*; suburbs of N. Y., *State Flora*.

PHYRMA, L.—*P. Leptostachya*, L.; common; N. Y.; not common on the south side of Long Island, *Merriam*.

35. Note on *Hottonia inflata*, Ell.—This is a rare plant in the neighborhood of New York. The nearest place to the city in which I have observed it is near Bull's Ferry, in a swamp on the road-side, about five miles from Hoboken. From no part of the State of New York have I received it, except from West Chester County, where it occurs in several ponds: but Mr. Vasey has found it near Dexter, in Jefferson County. Farther south, and in some of the western states, it is more common; but it has not, to my knowledge, been found west of the Mississippi River.

Until the present season I have not had an opportunity for examining this plant in a living state. About three weeks ago I found it growing in ditches near Carrieville Station, on the Northern Railroad of New Jersey, 21 miles from Jersey City. It was just commencing to throw up its scapes; in which state I removed a number of specimens and placed them in a glass vase of water, so that I had an opportunity of watching their development in my study. The scapes have grown to the height of four or five inches, and have produced numerous whorls of flowers. The corolla is scarcely more than a line and a half in length, and its border never expands. At a very early age, when the flower-buds are barely formed, fertilization takes place, and the corolla is detached from its base by the enlargement of the ovary, on the summit of which it remains, like a little cap, until the fruit is mature. Fertilization must take place without any aid from without, for the corolla does not open, the stamens and pistil being closely shut in, and the anthers being directly in contact with the stigma.

In the *H. palustris* of Europe the flowers are many times larger than in our plant, and the scapes are not at all inflated. There are also many other points of difference.

It is remarkable that this curious plant, which has been known more than half a century, has never been figured in any botanical work.

Columbia College, New York, June 6, 1871.

JOHN TORREY.

36. Notes by J. S. Merriam.—I lately found within the grounds of Prospect Park, but in a portion not yet improved (?)—